

The present office action, and the previous office action dated March 27, 2002, do not include a copy of the PTO Form 1449 that was submitted in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on November 23, 1999. Applicant respectfully requests the examiner to send the undersigned a copy of the PTO Form 1449 with the reference initialed by the Examiner, thereby indicating that this reference was considered.

The Examiner appears to have withdrawn the rejection to the drawings and specification presented in the first office action dated March 27, 2002. However, the Office Action does not indicate whether the proposed drawing corrections filed on June 24, 2002 are acceptable. Applicant respectfully requests the examiner to do so.

## **II. PRIOR ART REJECTION**

All of the pending claims, claims 1-7, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,085,201 (Tso). This rejection is traversed.

The Examiner asserts that Tso discloses all the features of the present invention including a content selecting means, an answer message selecting means, and a reply mail preparing means.

Applicant respectfully submits that Tso does not teach or suggest the function of enabling a user to select from a received mail a portion to be used in a reply mail, and the function of preparing a reply mail by coupling the selected contents of the received mail with the selected answer examples, as recited by independent claims 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7.

Therefore, Applicant submits that since Tso fails to teach or suggest the features of claimed invention, the Examiner has failed to form a prima facie case of anticipation. Thus, Applicant submits that the rejection of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is improper.

Based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that the present application is in

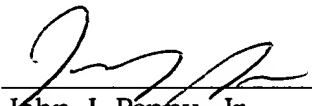
Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
Attorney Docket No.: 71117/49233  
U.S. Serial No.: 09/369,690  
Applicants: M. Takeuchi et al.  
Group Art Unit: 2155  
Examiner: Y. Won

condition for allowance.

Applicant believes that no additional fees are due for the subject application. However, if for any reason a fee is required, a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1105.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 27, 2002

  
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